<u>Declaration and Power of Attorney</u>

As below-named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.

We believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Method And Apparatus For A Hearing Aid Coupling System** (File No. 03456-P0001A LHR), the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the aboveidentified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. To the best of our knowledge, information, and belief the facts stated therein are true.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign applications for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign applications for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

None

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of the following United States Applications listed below, and insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this Application is not disclosed in the prior United States Application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

None

We hereby claim the priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of the following United States provisional application(s) listed below:

United States Application No. 60/195,240 Filed April 5, 2000

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We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint Louis H. Reens, Registration No. 22,588, of ST.ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS LLC; 986 Bedford Street; Stamford, Connecticut 06905-5619 (203 324-6155); with full power of substitution, association and revocation, as attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please direct all telephone calls and correspondence to Louis H. Reens at the above address and telephone number.

Full name of first inventor:	Joan Phillips Waldron
Inventor's signature	·
Date:	March, 2001
Residence:	Fort Collins, Colorado
Citizenship:	A citizen of the United States
Post Office Address:	624 Republic Drive Fort Collins, CO 80526

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Full name of second inventor:	Grace M. Scire'
Inventor's signature	Jan M. Sami
Date:	March <u>29</u> , 2001
Residence:	Danbury, Connecticut
Citizenship:	A citizen of the United States
Post Office Address:	Ten Filmore Avenue Danbury, CT 06810
Full name of third inventor:	Jacob Segovia
Inventor's signature	
Date:	
Residence:	Divide, Colorado
Citizenship:	A citizen of the United States
Post Office Address:	789 Ridge Drive Divide, CO 80814

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	Joan Phillips Waldron, et al.
Serial No Pending	Filing Date: March 29, 2001
Title of Application:	Method And Apparatus For A Hearing Aid Coupling System

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Small Entity Assertion

Dear Sir:

1. **Small Entity Statement**. Applicants claim Small Entity Status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

Respectfully submitted,

March 29, 2001

Louis H. Reens, Registration No. 22,588

Attorney for Applicants

S_T.O_{NGE} S_{TEWARD} J_{OHNSTON} & R_{EENS LLC} 986 Bedford Street; Stamford, CT 06905-5619

203 324-6155

Express Mail Certificate: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Mailing Label Number EL 550 089 256 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks; Washington, DC 20231.

March 29, 2001

Caroline Gahagan